

Dr. Michael Quinn - New Faculty Member in the Sports Media Concentration

by Samantha Gaddy

Dr. Michael Quinn completed his undergraduate at the University of Rochester, and received his PhD in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Now officially the head of the sports media concentration here at Manhattan College, Quinn currently teaches Introduction to Sports Media, Sports Media Production, and Sports Media Performance. In a sit down interview, Dr.Quinn answered the following questions:

Why sports media?

Sports media is growing rapidly in the U.S. and in the world. This means there's a lot of opportunities for students. And number two, it's not a field that is heavily studied in academia because people don't take sports seriously...but if it's a multi-billion dollar industry, then it's not just a game.

What can students expect out of your classes?

One of the things this concentration is doing is creating content for ESPN3 and ESPN+, mainly right now by shooting the basketball games, and we hope to be shooting volleyball, soccer, and lacrosse in the near future. And because ESPN wants a lot of content, students can work with Joe Ruggerio (Producer Director) and me to produce professional broadcasts.

What is a reason they should take your classes?

This is something that's rarely, if ever, been done as far as I know at colleges and universities around the country. They get immediate hands-on experience with producing stuff for ESPN that gets put on TV and the internet,... which is something they will be able to put on their resumes before even leaving college. They can take a number of classes just working in the truck and learning to edit and learning the cameras. There will also be a performance class where we'll be doing in-front of the cameras stuff: how to do interviews, how to talk about the games, do play-by-play..

What do you most look forward to in working at Manhattan College?

First, I'm looking forward to seeing the mobile production unit in operation. My student's work will be streamed live on a major network; this is incredibly exciting -- as well as scary -- and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's hard work pay off, from Doctors Grabowski and Gencarelli down to the students who will run batteries to the cameras during games. Second, I've never been in a situation where students have the opportunity to gain so much experience working in a professional environment. I'm excited to see the opportunities students will receive after they graduate. I am confident that Sports Media Production is a great starting point for a future in media, sports or otherwise.